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APR 20 2004  
U. S. PATENT OFFICE  
RECEIVED  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 2877

PATENT

Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 5552.1443-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Paul MELLER ) Group Art Unit: 2877  
Application No.: 09/680,436 ) Examiner: K. Geisel  
Filed: October 6, 2000 )  
For: SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC AND )  
NEPHELOMETRIC DETECTION )  
UNIT )

**Mail Stop AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Applicant hereby petitions for a one month extension of time to file the response due on March 20, 2004 in reply to the Office Action of July 21, 2003. A fee of \$110.00 is enclosed. The period for response was previously extended to March 20, 2004 by a Notice of Appeal and Petition for Extension of Time - Three Months filed January 20, 2004.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

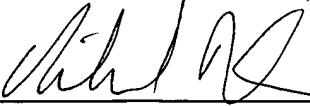
Respectfully submitted,

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FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: 

Michael W. Kim  
Reg. No. 51,880

Dated: April 20, 2004